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Summary

At its seventeenth session, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development reviewed the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels. In addition, it considered two priority themes, "Science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda" and "Information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development". The session included a segment on science, technology and innovation policy reviews.

Two ministerial round tables were convened during the session, in which more than 20 Member States were represented at the ministerial level. Participants also included the heads or representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and representatives of civil society, business entities and the technical and academic communities.

During the ministerial round table on the review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, participants affirmed the commitment of their countries to the pursuit of those outcomes and underlined the importance of their overall review by the General Assembly. The role of information and communications technologies was regarded as critical to the economic and social development of all people, and participants noted a range of important steps that had been taken for the advancement of the information society in their countries. Those steps included significant investment in information and communication infrastructure and the deployment of new applications that fostered economic growth and development.

The Commission was informed of the national strategies, regulatory measures and services that had been put in place to foster connectivity, create an enabling environment and ensure that information and communications technologies contribute to the achievement of economic and social goals. Examples of advances in the provision of e-banking and e-government services were mentioned, together with initiatives to promote open data and e-services in areas such as health and education. Coordination among stakeholders, adequate regulation and regional cooperation were also identified as factors contributing to the promotion of an enabling environment for information and communications technologies. At the same time, participants underlined the importance of education and capacity-building for the development of information societies in their countries.

Participants identified a number of areas in which their countries had achieved progress in narrowing the digital divide. Inclusiveness was regarded as an important aspect of information societies, and ethics was raised as a topic that warranted further discussion. Many pointed to the importance of the overall review by the General Assembly of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, which would enable progress, including both achievements and shortcomings, to be comprehensively assessed, and they drew attention to the synergies between the overall review by the Assembly in 2015 and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

Participants in the ministerial round table on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda noted the critical role of science, technology and innovation in addressing global challenges and transforming national

economies, and requested that the establishment of national innovation systems and the building of capacity in science, technology and innovation through global partnerships should be key components of the post-2015 development framework. It was considered that national development plans would need to focus on specific sectoral priorities, supported by science, technology and innovation policies which would be synchronized with those priorities.

Participants shared national success stories, ranging from microlevel projects in local innovation to broad-based national frameworks, in which the power of science, technology and innovation had been channelled towards the solution of developmental problems. It was stressed that enhancing the quality of education and vocational training in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, encouraging young people to undergo such education and increasing the percentage of women in such programmes was essential for long-term economic development and for local innovation. Participants also underlined the importance of prominently featuring science, technology and innovation, both as an enabler and a goal in itself, in the post-2015 development agenda and related sustainable development goals.

Under the priority theme "Science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda", participants discussed the potential contribution of science, technology and innovation as a key enabler of the new sustainable development framework that would succeed the Millennium Development Goals. The Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations in New York and Co-Chair of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals provided a briefing to the Commission about the discussions under way.

There was wide acknowledgement that access to science, technology and innovation was critical to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The role of science, technology and innovation in attaining a number of the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries, in some cases even ahead of schedule, was particularly stressed. It was considered that science, technology and innovation had been especially important in reducing poverty and ensuring progress, often by leapfrogging with technologies in the areas of health, water, education, agriculture and food production, energy and the environment.

Such evidence reinforced the view that science, technology and innovation should play an even more prominent role in the post-2015 development agenda and be explicitly mentioned within the new sustainable development framework. Possible targets could include the overall investment by countries of a percentage of their gross domestic product in science, research and development and in education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, including all public and private investments.

During the discussion, experts shared their views on upcoming global trends that would have a critical impact on the post-2015 development agenda, such as urbanization, the expansion of the middle class in the developing world and the effects on societies of disruptive technological developments.

In considering the priority theme "Information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development", the Commission reviewed emerging trends in such technologies and the key issues affecting access to them in developing countries, including the seminal role of digital development in sustainable development, affordability, financing models and leveraging the potential of international young people in driving transformational change.

The Commission noted that the expansion of information and communications technologies in developing countries created new opportunities for closing the digital gap and fostering inclusive innovation. However, such expansion also exposed major gaps in the ability of developing countries to define new pathways for technological catch-up and create new industries that would add to global economic growth. It was considered that one way to address the gap was to encourage ministries responsible for information and communications technologies, working in partnership with higher education authorities, to facilitate graduate training in relevant scientific and engineering fields.

Participants underlined that affordability remained a key issue, given the large gap between broadband prices as a percentage of per capita income in developed countries and the prices in developing countries. It was noted that, in the least developed countries, more than 90 per cent of the population was not connected to the Internet. Creating the conditions for open, competitive and innovative broadband markets, and regulatory and policy reform, could leverage very large increases in Internet access.

Participants encouraged the Commission to promote the role of science, technology and innovation, engineering and information and communications technologies in the post-2015 development agenda by acting as a forum for horizon-scanning and strategic planning, providing foresight with regard to critical trends in science, technology and innovation in such areas as food security, water and other natural resources, urbanization, advanced manufacturing and related education and vocational needs. They requested the Commission to call attention to emerging and disruptive technologies that could potentially affect the achievement of the post-2015 development agenda.

The Chief of the Policy Coordination Branch, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, made a presentation on the process of reform of the Economic and Social Council, including new functions, working methods, programme cycles and the interaction of the Council with the Commission. The presentation stimulated consideration of how the Commission should shape policy discussions to promote science, technology and innovation and information and communications technologies for development in the post-2015 development agenda by creating effective feedback loops that would flow from countries to the Commission and the Council and back.

In considering the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, participants took account of current trends and challenges and made policy observations in respect of a number of important areas of activity. They noted the impact of rapid change in the technology landscape on information and communications technologies for development, including both new opportunities and challenges. The observation was made that, given that the information society was situated at the interface between technological and human development, solutions enabled by information and communications technology could not be purely technical in nature. The development of enabling legal and regulatory frameworks, the resolution of jurisdictional problems arising from the cross-boundary nature of the Internet and the protection of human rights online, including the right to privacy, were mentioned as some areas critical for the information society.

The Commission was informed of recent developments in the Internet Governance Forum, including the preparations for its ninth annual meeting, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, in September 2014; the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the working group established by the Commission to consider improvements to the Forum; and the expansion of the regional and national initiatives of the Forum. Views were also expressed on Internet governance, focusing on its characteristics and priorities, on the roles of the various stakeholders and on the need to implement enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.

Approaching the completion of the first 10-year period for the implementation of the commitments of the World Summit on the Information Society, the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, co-facilitator of the open intergovernmental consultations to finalize the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly in 2015 of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, provided information on the progress made in that regard. Members of the Commission were also provided with updated information on other events relating to the 10-year review process, such as the meeting on the theme "Toward knowledge societies for peace and sustainable development", convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris in February 2013, and the high-level, 10-year review event to be hosted by the International Telecommunication Union in June 2014. The representatives of the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia informed the Commission of regional priorities and activities, noting the great disparities within their respective regions.

The Commission extended its compliments to the Government of Brazil for convening the NETmundial meeting in São Paulo on 23 and 24 April 2014, and praised Brazil for the great efforts that it had made to organize and hold the event.

Several participants recalled once again that the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society should be comprehensive, considering both successes and shortcomings. Views were expressed on pertinent issues for the review, such as bridging the digital divide, capacity-building and digital education, financial mechanisms, Internet governance and implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit. Participants also raised the issue of the mandate of the Commission in relation to its 10-year review of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes. The point was made that 3 billion people throughout the world continued to lack access to the Internet and that they should be regarded as a priority constituency in the work of the Commission.

The Chair of the working group appointed by the Commission to examine the mandate of the World Summit on the Information Society regarding enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda and to make recommendations on how to fully implement that mandate (known as the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation) gave an account of the four meetings held by the Working Group from May 2013 to May 2014. Following intensive deliberations, the Commission decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that the work initiated by the Working Group with regard to the collection of relevant information, the review of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the identification of gaps might be continued by the secretariat of the Commission. It was agreed that the

secretariat would prepare findings for consideration at the forthcoming meeting of the intersessional panel and as part of the input to the 10-year review by the Commission, at its eighteenth session, of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit.

Under the agenda item on science, technology and innovation policy reviews, participants expressed their appreciation for the excellent quality of the review of Oman presented to the Commission. They commended the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) for the usefulness of the science, technology and innovation policy review programme for developing countries. An exchange of views took place concerning several issues raised in the review of Oman, including the challenges of transforming a resource-based economy into one driven by innovation and those relating to the development of an innovation culture. In response to an invitation extended by the Commission at its sixteenth session, five countries that had implemented science, technology and innovation policy reviews in recent years reported to the Commission on related progress, lessons learned and challenges encountered in the implementation of recommendations arising from the reviews. In the discussion that followed, it was noted that the reviews had shown a high level of impact in the countries concerned. The representative of the UNCTAD secretariat presented a few highlights of the current work of the organization on entrepreneurship and science, technology and innovation for productive capacity-building, as well as on innovation for inclusive, sustainable development. In the presentation, emphasis was placed on the efforts made to promote cross-fertilization between the work of UNCTAD and that of the Commission in the area of science, technology and innovation for development.

The Commission selected "Strategic foresight for the post-2015 development agenda" and "Digital development" as the two priority themes for consideration at its eighteenth session. The Commission will identify and consider specific aspects of the themes at the forthcoming meeting of the intersessional panel, in cooperation with experts.

In chapter I of the present report, the Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of two draft resolutions, one on assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and another on science, technology and innovation for development, in addition to a draft decision in which the Council would take note of the report of the Commission on its seventeenth session and approve the provisional agenda and documentation for its eighteenth session.[a]

[a] For further information on the session of the Commission, see www.unctad.org/cstd.

[30 May 2014]

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolutions for adoption by the Council

1. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society*

Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society,[1]

Recalling also its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 on the follow-up to the World Summit and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the mandate that it gave to the Commission,

Recalling further its resolution 2013/9 of 22 July 2013 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/198 of 20 December 2013 on information and communications technologies for development,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels,[2]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development",[3]

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for his role in helping to ensure completion of the aforementioned reports in a timely manner,

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* For the discussion, see chap. II.

[1] See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

[2] A/69/65-E/2014/12.

[3] E/CN.16/2014/3.

Taking stock: reviewing the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

1. *Notes* the ongoing implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,[1] emphasizing, in particular, its multi-stakeholder nature, the roles played in this regard by leading agencies as action line facilitators and the roles of the regional commissions and the United Nations Group on the Information Society, and expresses its appreciation for the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the World Summit;

2. *Takes note* of the reports of many United Nations entities, with their respective executive summaries, submitted as input for the elaboration of the annual report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Commission and published on the website of the Commission as mandated in Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/8 of 25 July 2007, and recalls the importance of close coordination among the leading action line facilitators and with the secretariat of the Commission;

3. *Notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional level facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels,[2] including the steps taken in this respect, and emphasizes the need to continue to address issues of specific interest to each region, focusing on the challenges and obstacles that each may be facing with regard to the implementation of all goals and principles established by the World Summit, with particular attention to information and communications technology for development;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of maintaining a process of coordinating the multi-stakeholder implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit through effective tools, with the goal of exchanging information among action line facilitators, identifying issues that need improvement and discussing the modalities of reporting on the overall implementation process, encourages all stakeholders to continue to contribute information to the stocktaking database maintained by the International Telecommunication Union on the implementation of the goals established by the World Summit, and invites United Nations entities to update information on their initiatives in the stocktaking database;

5. *Highlights* the urgent need for the incorporation of the recommendations contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit in the revised guidelines for United Nations country teams on preparing the common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, including the addition of an information and communications technology for development component;

6. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 60/252 of 27 March 2006, in which the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to oversee the system-wide follow-up to the Geneva and Tunis outcomes of the World Summit and, to that end, requested the Council, at its substantive session of 2006, to review the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission, including considering strengthening the Commission, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the holding in Geneva, from 13 to 17 May 2013, of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2013, organized by the

International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Development Programme, as a multi-stakeholder platform for the coordination of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit and to facilitate the implementation of the World Summit action lines;

8. *Calls upon* all States, in building the information society, to take steps to avoid and to refrain from taking any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries and that hinders their well-being;

9. *Welcomes* the progress highlighted in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit, in particular the fact that the rapid growth in access to mobile telephony since 2005 has meant that more than half of the world's inhabitants have access to information and communications technologies within their reach, in line with one of the World Summit targets, the value of this progress being enhanced by the advent of new services and applications, including m-health, m-agriculture, mobile transactions, m-government, e-government, e-business and development services, which offer great potential for the development of the information society;

10. *Notes with great concern* that many developing countries lack affordable access to information and communications technologies and that, for the majority of the poor, the promise of science and technology, including information and communications technologies, remains unfulfilled, and emphasizes the need to effectively harness technology, including information and communications technologies, to bridge the digital divide;

11. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing the new technologies, such as an appropriate enabling environment, sufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity, as well as issues related to technology ownership, standards and flows, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to provide adequate resources, enhanced capacity-building and transfer of technology and knowledge to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

12. *Also recognizes* the rapid growth in broadband access networks, especially in developed countries, and notes with concern that there is a growing digital divide in the availability, affordability, quality of access and use of broadband between high-income countries and other regions, with the least developed countries and Africa as a continent lagging behind the rest of the world;

13. *Further recognizes* that the transition to a mobile-led communications environment is leading to significant changes in operators' business models and that it requires significant rethinking of the ways in which individuals and communities make use of networks and devices, of government strategies and of ways in which communications networks can be used to achieve development objectives;

14. *Recognizes* that, even with all the developments and the improvement observed in some respects, in numerous developing countries information and

communications technologies and their applications are still not available to or affordable for the majority of people, particularly those living in rural areas;

15. *Also recognizes* that the number of Internet users is growing and that, in some instances, the digital divide is also changing in character from one based on whether access is available to one based on the quality of access, information and skills that users can obtain and the value that they can derive from it, and recognizes in this regard that there is a need to prioritize the use of information and communications technologies through innovative approaches, including multi-stakeholder approaches, within national and regional development strategies;

16. *Takes note* of the global report of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development entitled "The State of Broadband 2013: Universalizing Broadband", and notes with interest the continuous efforts of the Broadband Commission in promoting high-level advocacy for the establishment of an enabling environment for broadband connectivity, in particular through national broadband plans and public-private partnerships for ensuring that the development agenda challenges are met with appropriate impact and in conjunction with all stakeholders;

17. *Notes* that, while a solid foundation for capacity-building in information and communications technology has been laid in many areas with regard to building the information society, there is still a need for continuing efforts to address the ongoing challenges, especially for developing countries and the least developed countries, and draws attention to the positive impact of broadened capacity development that involves institutions, organizations and entities dealing with information and communications technologies and Internet governance issues;

18. *Recognizes* the need to focus on capacity development policies and sustainable support to further enhance the impact of activities and initiatives at the national and local levels aimed at providing advice, services and support with a view to building an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society;

19. *Notes* that topics continue to emerge, such as e-environment applications and the contribution of information and communications technologies to early warning, mitigating climate change, social networking, virtualization and cloud computing and services, mobile Internet and mobile-based services, the protection of online privacy and the empowerment and protection, especially against cyberexploitation and abuse, of vulnerable groups of society, in particular children and young people;

20. *Reiterates* the importance of information and communications technology indicators as a monitoring and evaluation tool for measuring the digital divide among countries and within societies and in informing decision makers when formulating policies and strategies for social, cultural and economic development, and emphasizes that the standardization and harmonization of reliable and regularly updated indicators capturing the performance, efficiency, affordability and quality of goods and services are essential for implementing information and communications technology policies;

Internet governance

21. *Reaffirms* that the outcomes of the World Summit related to Internet governance, namely, the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening

of the Internet Governance Forum, are to be pursued by the Secretary-General through two distinct processes, and recognizes that the two processes may be complementary;

22. *Also reaffirms* paragraphs 34 to 37 and 67 to 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;[4]

Enhanced cooperation

23. *Recognizes* the importance of enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues;

24. *Also recognizes* that the process towards enhanced cooperation, to be started by the Secretary-General, involving all relevant organizations by the end of the first quarter of 2006, will involve all stakeholders in their respective roles, will proceed as quickly as possible, consistent with legal process, and will be responsive to innovation; that relevant organizations should commence a process towards enhanced cooperation involving all stakeholders, proceeding as quickly as possible and being responsive to innovation; and that the same relevant organizations shall be requested to provide annual performance reports;

25. *Recalls* that, in its resolution 67/195 of 21 December 2012, the General Assembly invited the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to establish a working group on enhanced cooperation to examine the mandate of the World Summit regarding enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda, through seeking, compiling and reviewing inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders, and to make recommendations on how to fully implement that mandate, and requested the working group to report to the Commission at its seventeenth session, in 2014, as an input to the overall review of the outcomes of the World Summit;

26. *Also recalls* that, in its resolution 67/195, the General Assembly requested the Chair of the Commission to ensure that the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation had balanced representation between Governments, from the five regional groups of the Commission, and invitees from all other stakeholders, namely, the private sector, civil society, technical and academic communities and intergovernmental and international organizations, drawn equally from developing and developed countries;

27. *Notes* that the Working Group held four meetings between May 2013 and May 2014, at which it examined the mandate of enhanced cooperation by issuing a questionnaire and seeking, compiling and reviewing inputs from all Member States and other stakeholders for the purpose of developing draft recommendations, as stipulated by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/195;

28. *Takes note* of the report of the Chair of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation of the Commission,[5] and expresses its gratitude to the Chair and

[4] See A/60/687.

[5] E/CN.16/2014/CRP.3.

members and other stakeholders that submitted inputs and contributed to the work of the Working Group;

29. *Notes* that consensus emerged on certain issues while a wide divergence of opinions persisted in a number of other issues that prevented the Working Group from making recommendations on how to fully implement enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda, as stipulated in the mandate given to the Working Group by the General Assembly in resolution 67/195;

30. *Also notes* the work initiated by the Working Group to review the identified international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, list where there are existing international mechanisms addressing these issues, identify the status of mechanisms, if any, and whether they are addressing the issues, and attempt to identify gaps in order to ascertain what type of recommendations may be required;

31. *Recommends* that this work may be further continued by the secretariat of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development with a view to the submission of findings to the Commission at its intersessional meeting for further discussion, and their integration into the 10-year review of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, to be prepared for consideration by the Commission at its eighteenth session;

Internet Governance Forum

32. *Recognizes* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, as reflected in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda, including discussion on public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance;

33. *Also recognizes* that national and regional Internet Governance Forum initiatives have emerged, taking place in all regions and addressing Internet governance issues of relevance and priority to the organizing country or region;

34. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 67/195, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit, information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum of the Commission,[6] in particular on enhancing participation of developing countries;

35. *Notes* the holding of the eighth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, from 22 to 25 October 2013 under the main theme, entitled "Building Bridges — Enhancing Multi-stakeholder Cooperation for Growth and Sustainable Development", hosted by the Government of Indonesia;

36. *Welcomes* the holding of the ninth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, to be hosted by the Government of Turkey and scheduled to take place in Istanbul from 2 to 5 September 2014, and notes that, in the preparatory process for the meeting, recommendations from the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum have been taken into consideration;

[6] A/67/65-E/2012/48 and Corr.1.

37. *Welcomes* the offer by Brazil to host the tenth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum in 2015 and, subject to the decision by the General Assembly on the renewal of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum, also welcomes the offer of Mexico to host a meeting in 2016;

The road ahead

38. *Notes* the substantive discussion on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit during the Commission's seventeenth session, held from 12 to 16 May 2014, and the ongoing work of the Commission of collecting input from all facilitators and stakeholders as part of the preparations for its 10-year review report of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, and to report thereon, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly as it makes an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2015;

39. *Also notes* the intention to hold an event coordinated by the International Telecommunication Union entitled "WSIS+10 High Level Event" as an extended version of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum in Geneva, to be held from 10 to 13 June 2014;

40. *Further notes* the holding of a 10-year review event of the World Summit on the Information Society entitled "Towards knowledge societies for peace and sustainable development", coordinated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in Paris, from 25 to 27 February 2013, and the final statement of the event;

41. *Notes* the holding of the fifth World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology Policy Forum on international Internet-related public policy matters in Geneva from 14 to 16 May 2013, and its output opinions;

42. *Also notes* the holding of the BYND 2015 Global Youth Summit, organized by the International Telecommunication Union and hosted by the Government of Costa Rica in San José from 9 to 11 September 2013, and its declaration;

43. *Urges* United Nations entities still not actively cooperating in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit through the United Nations system to take the necessary steps and commit to a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society and to catalyse the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[7]

44. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to keep the goal of bridging the digital divide, in its different forms, an area of priority concern, to put into effect sound strategies that contribute to the development of e-government and to continue to focus on pro-poor information and communications technology policies and applications, including access to broadband at the grass-roots level, with a view to narrowing the digital divide among and within countries;

45. *Urges* all stakeholders to prioritize the development of innovative approaches that will stimulate the provision of universal access to affordable

[7] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

broadband infrastructure for developing countries and the use of relevant broadband services in order to ensure the development of an inclusive, development-oriented and people-centred information society, and to minimize the digital divide;

46. *Calls upon* international and regional organizations to continue to assess and report on a regular basis on the universal accessibility of nations to information and communications technologies, with the aim of creating equitable opportunities for the growth of the information and communications technology sectors of developing countries;

47. *Urges* all countries to make concrete efforts to fulfil their commitments under the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[8]

48. *Calls upon* United Nations organizations and other relevant organizations and forums, in accordance with the outcomes of the World Summit, to periodically review and modify the methodologies for information and communications technology indicators, taking into account different levels of development and national circumstances, and therefore:

(a) Notes with appreciation the work of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development;

(b) Also notes the holding, in Mexico City, from 4 to 6 December 2013, of the eleventh World Telecommunication/Information and Communications Technology Indicators Symposium;

(c) Encourages Member States to collect relevant data at the national level on information and communications technologies, so as to be able to respond satisfactorily to surveys such as the World Summit targets survey, to share information about country case studies and to collaborate with other countries in capacity-building exchange programmes;

(d) Encourages United Nations organizations and other relevant organizations and forums to promote assessment of the impact of information and communications technologies on poverty and in key sectors to identify the knowledge and skills needed to boost impacts;

(e) Calls upon international development partners to provide financial support to further facilitate capacity-building and technical assistance in developing countries;

49. *Invites* the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to support the review and assessment work of the Commission regarding follow-up to the World Summit, while acknowledging with appreciation the financial support provided by the Governments of Finland and Switzerland to this fund;

50. *Recalls* paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda, in which the General Assembly was requested to make an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2015, and paragraph 106, according to which the

[8] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

World Summit implementation and follow-up should be an integral part of the United Nations integrated follow-up to major United Nations conferences;

51. *Also recalls* paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 67/195, in which the Assembly reaffirmed its role in the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, to be held by the end of 2015, as recognized in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda;

52. *Further recalls* paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 68/198 of 20 December 2013, in which the General Assembly decided to finalize the modalities of the overall review as early as possible, and invited the President of the General Assembly to appoint two co-facilitators to convene open intergovernmental consultations for that purpose;

53. *Recommends* that, consistent with the World Summit process and subject to the decision by the General Assembly, an appropriate preparatory process be launched, drawing from the experience of the two phases of the World Summit;

54. *Notes* the role of the Commission, set forth in Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/46, in assisting the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit;

55. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report on the stocktaking of activities related to the World Summit, which serves as one of the valuable tools for assisting with the follow-up, beyond the conclusion of the Tunis phase of the World Summit;

56. *Reiterates* the importance of sharing best practices at the global level, and, while recognizing excellence in the implementation of the projects and initiatives that further the goals of the World Summit, encourages all stakeholders to nominate their projects for the annual World Summit project prizes as an integral part of the World Summit stocktaking process, while taking note of the report on the World Summit success stories;

57. *Requests* the Commission to invite further inputs from Member States, all facilitators and stakeholders and organize, during its eighteenth session, in 2015, a substantive discussion on the 10-year review report of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, and to report thereon, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly as it makes an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2015;

58. *Recalls further* paragraph 48 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/9, in which the Council requested the Commission to submit, after its eighteenth session, the results of its 10-year review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, through the Council, to the General Assembly as it makes an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2015;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, on a yearly basis, a report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution as well as in the other Economic and Social Council resolutions on the assessment of the quantitative and qualitative progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit;

60. *Emphasizes* the importance of promoting an inclusive information society, with particular attention to bridging the digital and broadband divide, taking into account considerations of gender and culture, as well as youth and other underrepresented groups;

61. *Also emphasizes* the importance of information and communications technologies for development, and considers that it should be reflected as appropriate in the post-2015 development agenda.

Draft resolution II
Science, technology and innovation for development*

Science, technology and innovation for development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as the United Nations torch-bearer for science, technology and innovation for development,

Recognizing also the critical role and contribution of science, technology and innovation in building and maintaining national competitiveness in the global economy, addressing global challenges and realizing sustainable development,

Recognizing further the seminal role that information and communications technologies play in promoting and empowering science, technology and innovation for development,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1] in which it was recognized that science and technology, including information and communications technologies, are vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, and reaffirming the commitments contained therein,

Recalling also that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is the secretariat of the Commission,

Recognizing that the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/220 of 20 December 2013 on science, technology and innovation for development, encouraged the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to undertake science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with a view to assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in identifying the measures that are needed to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into their national development strategies,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2011/235 of 26 July 2011 providing for the extension, until 2015, of the mandate of the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission,

Recognizing the instrumental role of science, technology and innovation in the achievement of a number of Millennium Development Goals, and highlighting the role of science, technology and innovation as a cross-cutting theme of the post-2015 development agenda to continue to address global challenges,

Welcoming the work of the Commission on its two current priority themes, "Science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda" and "Information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development",

Noting the need for new approaches that embed science, technology and innovation policies and capacity-building as crucial components of national development plans, inter alia through collaboration between sectoral ministries,

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

[1] General Assembly resolution 60/1.

science, technology and innovation and information and communication technology agencies and a range of regulatory bodies,

Recognizing the increased regional integration efforts throughout the world and the associated regional dimension of science, technology and innovation issues,

Noting the significant achievements and continuing potential contribution of information and communication technologies to human welfare, economic prosperity and employment,

Noting also that the success of using technology and innovation policies at the national level is facilitated by, among other things, the creation of policy environments that enable education and research institutions, businesses and industry to innovate, invest and transform science, technology and innovation into employment and economic growth incorporating all interrelated elements, including knowledge transfer,

Recommends the following for consideration by national Governments, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

(a) Governments, individually and collectively, are encouraged to take into account the findings of the Commission and to consider taking the following actions:

(i) To closely link science, technology, innovation and strategies of sustainable development by prominently featuring capacity-building in information and communication technologies and science, technology and innovation in national development planning;

(ii) To promote local innovation capabilities for inclusive and sustainable economic development by bringing together local scientific, vocational and engineering knowledge, including through collaboration with and among national programmes;

(iii) To undertake systemic research on new trends in information and communication technologies and science, technology and innovation and their impact on development, particularly in the context of the post-2015 development agenda;

(iv) To promote information and communication technologies through a capability-based approach that rests on the foundations of learning, innovation and competence-building systems, rather than a needs-based approach, and by establishing a conducive environment that attracts and supports private investment, innovation and entrepreneurship;

(v) To seek international cooperation opportunities in information and communication technologies, particularly in terms of identifying good practices, for example in e-learning — especially massive open online courses — e-government, e-science, e-health, management of electronic waste and disaster resilience, through existing and new cooperation platforms;

(vi) To address the ongoing and persistent gender gap in the fields of science, technology and innovation as a whole and science, technology, engineering and mathematics education in particular, by encouraging mentoring and supporting other efforts to attract and retain women and girls in those fields;

(vii) To support the policies and activities of developing countries in the fields of science and technology through North-South and South-South cooperation by encouraging financial and technical assistance, capacity-building and technical training programmes or courses;

(b) The Commission on Science and Technology for Development is encouraged:

(i) To continue its role as a torch-bearer for science, technology and innovation and to provide high-level advice to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on relevant science, technology, engineering and innovation issues;

(ii) To help articulate the important role of information and communication technologies and science, technology, innovation and engineering in the post-2015 development agenda by acting as a forum for horizon scanning and strategic planning, providing foresight about critical trends in science, technology and innovation in areas such as food security, the management of water and other natural resources, urbanization, advanced manufacturing and related education and vocational needs, and drawing attention to emerging and disruptive technologies that can potentially affect the achievement of that agenda;

(iii) To raise awareness among policymakers about the process of innovation and to identify particular opportunities for developing countries to benefit from such innovation, with special attention being placed on new trends in innovation that can offer novel possibilities for developing countries;

(iv) To discuss and explore innovative financing models as a means to attract new sources of investment capital for science, technology, engineering and innovation-based solutions, in particular smaller scale, off-grid renewable energy technologies, to address pressing challenges and needs for sustainable development, in collaboration with other organizations where appropriate;

(v) To provide a forum for sharing best practices, successful local innovation models, case studies and experiences on the use of science, technology and engineering for innovation, in symbiotic relationship with information and communications technologies, for inclusive and sustainable development;

(vi) To play an active role in creating awareness of the potential contribution of science, technology and innovation to the post-2015 development agenda through substantive inputs to relevant processes and bodies of the United Nations and to share findings and good practices on science, technology and innovation among member States and beyond;

(vii) To provide a forum for sharing good practices and experiences to identify and recommend ways and appropriate measures to promote innovation, research and development, creation of new knowledge and transfer of technology, as well as information and communications technologies for capacity-building in science, technology and engineering education, research and entrepreneurship for the benefit of developing countries and, in this context, to explore ways to expand cooperation among all countries, with particular attention to addressing pollution problems in order to protect the environment and share available resources;

(viii) To highlight the importance of the work of the Commission related to the implementation of and follow-up to the areas of information and communications technologies and science, technology and innovation related to the Millennium Development Goals and in the post-2015 development agenda, with the Chair of the Commission to report at appropriate reviews and meetings of the Economic and Social Council, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals review and the post-2015 development agenda;

(ix) To discuss the establishment of a systematic approach for strategy development related to science, technology and engineering for innovation;

(c) The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is encouraged:

(i) To seek funding proactively for the expansion of science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with an emphasis on the critical role of information and communication technologies in empowering science, technology and innovation and engineering capacity-building and utilization, and the implementation of the recommendations on those reviews, as appropriate, in close cooperation with United Nations agencies and international organizations;

(ii) To plan for periodic updates on progress made in countries for which science, technology and innovation policy reviews have been performed and to invite those countries to report to the Commission on progress made, lessons learned and challenges encountered in implementing recommendations.

* * *

B. Draft decision for adoption by the Council

2. The Commission also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its seventeenth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the eighteenth session of the Commission*

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its seventeenth session;[1]

(b) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the eighteenth session of the Commission as set out below.

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

3. Science and technology for development:

Priority themes:

(a) Strategic foresight for the post-2015 development agenda;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(b) Digital development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews.

5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the nineteenth session of the Commission.

6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the nineteenth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighteenth session.

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* For the discussion, see chaps. VI and VII.

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 11* (E/2014/31).

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following decision adopted by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development is brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Decision 17/101
Documents considered by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its seventeenth session

The Commission on Science and Technology for Development takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda (E/CN.16/2014/2 and Corr.1).

Chapter II

Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels

4. The Commission considered item 2 of its agenda at its 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th and 9th meetings, on 12, 14 and 16 May 2014. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels (A/69/65-E/2014/12);

(b) Summary report prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on the intersessional panel meeting on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda, held in Washington, D.C., from 2 to 4 December 2013 (E/CN.16/2014/CRP.1);

(c) Report of the Chair of the working group to examine the mandate of the World Summit on the Information Society regarding enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda (the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation) (E/CN.16/2014/CRP.3).

5. At the 1st meeting, on 12 May, the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD, and head of the secretariat of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General.

6. At its 5th meeting, on 14 May, the Commission held a substantive discussion on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, pursuant to paragraph 47 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/9.

7. Presentations were made by David Souter, ICT Development Associates; Mark Raymond, Centre for International Governance Innovation Research Fellow, Global Security and Politics; Jānis Kārkliņš, Chair, Multistakeholder Advisory Group, Internet Governance Forum; Chengetai Masango, Internet Governance Forum secretariat; Mike Jensen, Internet Access Specialist, Association of Progressive Communications; and Jimson Olufuye, Africa ICT Alliance, on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce Business Action to Support the Information Society.

8. At the same meeting, the panellists responded to comments made and questions raised by the representatives of Sweden, India, Germany, Saudi Arabia, the Dominican Republic, Portugal, Latvia, the United States of America, Mexico, Rwanda and Austria, in addition to the observer for Morocco.

9. The observer for the European Union made a statement.

10. At the 6th meeting, on 14 May, presentations were made by Mohamed Khaled Khiari, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations in New York and co-facilitator of the open intergovernmental consultations to finalize the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly in 2015 of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society; Vladimir Minkin, Chair of the Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform for the high-level, 10-year review event to be hosted by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in June

2014; Indrajit Banerjee, Director of the Knowledge Societies Division, Communication and Information Sector, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Nigel Hickson, Vice-President, Stakeholder Engagement — Europe, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers; Jose Palacin, Chief, Innovative Policies Development Section, Economic Commission for Europe; and Haidar Fraihat, Director, Information and Communications Division, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

11. At the same meeting, the panellists responded to comments made and questions raised by the representatives of Austria, Brazil, Iran (Islamic Republic of), India, Sweden, Saudi Arabia, the United States of America, Tunisia, China, Hungary and Germany.

12. The observer for the European Union made a statement.

13. At the 6th meeting, on 14 May, Peter Major (Hungary), in his capacity as Chair of the working group appointed by the Commission to examine the mandate of the World Summit on the Information Society regarding enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda and to make recommendations on how to fully implement that mandate (Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation), made a statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Saudi Arabia, Japan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), India, Hungary, Nigeria, Mexico, the United States of America, Cuba, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Rwanda and Portugal, in addition to the observers for the Sudan, Egypt, Brazil, South Africa, Australia, Algeria, Canada and Morocco.

14. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Commission and the representative of UNCTAD responded to questions raised.

15. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations: International Chamber of Commerce Business Action to Support the Information Society and Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers.

Ministerial round table on the review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

16. At its 1st meeting, on 12 May, the Commission convened a ministerial round table on the review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, moderated by the Chair of the Commission, Andrew Reynolds (United States of America), in which the following participants took part: Tawfik Jelassi, Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Information and Communications Technology, Tunisia; Selibe Mochoboroane, Minister of Communications, Science and Technology, Lesotho; Minendra Prasad Rijal, Minister of Information and Communications, Nepal; Omobola Johnson, Minister of Communication Technology and Supervising Minister of Science and Technology, Nigeria; Louis Napoleon Casambre, Under-Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Philippines; and Christopher Ndlangamandla, Minister of Information, Communications and Technology, Swaziland.

17. The representatives of Rwanda and Cuba also took part in the interactive discussion.

18. At the 2nd meeting, on 12 May, statements were made by Olivia Muchena, Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Zimbabwe, and the representatives of India, Sweden and Saudi Arabia.

19. Statements in the exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Cuba.

Action taken by the Commission

Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

20. At its 9th meeting, on 16 May, the Commission had before it a draft resolution entitled "Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society", submitted by its Chair on the basis of informal consultations and circulated in English only.

21. The Secretary of the Commission provided clarification with regard to the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

22. The Commission adopted the draft resolution and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for adoption (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

23. The Commission agreed on the text of a paragraph for inclusion in the report of the Commission.

Chapter III
Science and technology for development

Priority themes:

(a) Science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda:

(i) Taking stock: a decade of contributions of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to the Millennium Development Goals

(ii) Looking forward: science, technology and innovation prospects for the post-2015 development agenda

(b) Information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development

24. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 2nd to 4th and 9th meetings, on 12, 13 and 16 May. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda (E/CN.16/2014/2 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development (E/CN.16/2014/3).

25. At the 3rd meeting, on 13 May, the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD, and head of the secretariat of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/CN.16/2014/2 and Corr.1.

26. At the same meeting, statements were made by Romain Murenzi, Executive Director, The World Academy of Sciences; and Shirley Malcom, Head of the Directorate of Education and Human Resources, American Association for the Advancement of Science.

27. At the 4th meeting, on 13 May, the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD, and head of the Secretariat of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/CN.16/2014/3.

Ministerial round table on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda

28. At its 2nd meeting, on 12 May, the Commission convened a ministerial round table on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda, moderated by the Chair of the Commission, Andrew Reynolds (United States of America), in which the following participants took part: Wu Hailong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Vice-Minister, Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva; Gnissa Isaie Konate, Minister of Scientific Research and Innovation, Burkina Faso; Ligia Amada Melo de Cardona, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Dominican Republic; Phillip Paulwell, Minister of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining, Jamaica; Maria Candida

Pereira Teixeira, Minister of Science and Technology, Angola; Omobola Johnson, Minister of Communication Technology and Supervising Minister of Science and Technology, Nigeria; Hilal Ali Al-Hinai, Secretary-General of the Research Council, Oman; Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister of Technology and Research, Sri Lanka; Sumaya Abu-Kashawa, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Sudan; Pichet Durongkaveroj, Secretary-General, National Science Technology and Innovation Policy Office, Thailand; William Colglazier, Science and Technology Adviser to the United States Secretary of State; Olivia Muchena, Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Zimbabwe; Bruno Jean Richard Itoua, Minister of Scientific Research and Technological Innovation, Congo; Mario G. Montejo, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Philippines; and Alexander Mora, Minister for Foreign Trade, Costa Rica.

29. The representatives of Rwanda and Saudi Arabia also took part in the interactive discussion.

Panel on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda

30. At its 3rd meeting, on 13 May, the Commission held a panel discussion on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda, moderated by Romain Murenzi, Executive Director, The World Academy of Sciences.

31. Presentations were made by Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations in New York and Co-Chair of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals; Mathew Burrows, Director of the Strategic Foresight Initiative, Atlantic Council; Aderemi Kuku, President, African Academy of Sciences; Christiane Diehl, Deputy Head of the International Relations Department, Leopoldina, and Executive Director, European Academies Science Advisory Council secretariat; and Alfred Watkins, Chair, Global Solutions Summit.

32. Statements were made by the representatives of Saudi Arabia, India, Cuba, China, the United States of America, Germany, Rwanda, Austria, Liberia and Nigeria, in addition to the observers for Senegal, Morocco and Zimbabwe.

33. A statement was also made by the representative of the European Organization for Nuclear Research.

34. The panellists responded to comments made and questions raised during the discussion.

Panel on information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development

35. At its 4th meeting, on 13 May, the Commission held a panel discussion on information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development, moderated by Lee Schwartz, Director, Office of the Geographer and Global Issues, United States Department of State.

36. Presentations were made by Alexander Mora, Minister for Foreign Trade, Costa Rica; Darrell Owen, Senior Information and Communications Consultant, United States Agency for International Development; Sonia Jorge, Executive Director, Alliance for Affordable Internet; Jimson Olufuye, Africa ICT Alliance; the

Chair of the Commission, on behalf of Bernard Amadei, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Colorado at Boulder, and Founder of Engineers Without Borders USA; and the Moderator, on behalf of Calestous Juma, Professor of the Practice of International Development and Director of the Science, Technology and Globalization Project, Harvard Kennedy School.

37. Statements were made by the representatives of Mexico, India and Cameroon, in addition to the observer for Morocco.

38. A statement was also made by the representative of ITU.

39. The panellists responded to comments made and questions raised during the discussion.

40. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Policy Coordination Branch of the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made a presentation on the 2014 annual ministerial review process of the Economic and Social Council and responded to comments made and questions raised by the representatives of Cuba, India and Austria, in addition to the observer for Morocco.

Action taken by the Commission

Science, technology and innovation for development

41. At its 9th meeting, on 16 May, the Commission had before it a draft resolution entitled "Science, technology and innovation for development", submitted by its Chair on the basis of informal consultations and circulated in English only.

42. A statement was made by the facilitator of the draft resolution, William Colglazier (United States of America).

43. The Secretary of the Commission provided clarification with regard to the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

44. The Commission adopted the draft resolution and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for adoption (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

Draft decision proposed by the Chair

45. At its 9th meeting, on 16 May, on the proposal of the Chair, the Commission decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda (E/CN.16/2014/2 and Corr.1).

Chapter IV

Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews

46. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 7th meeting, on 15 May.

Presentation of the science, technology and innovation policy review of Oman

47. A presentation was made by the representative of the UNCTAD secretariat.

48. A presentation was made by Hilal Ali Al-Hinai, Secretary-General of the Research Council of Oman.

49. Statements were made by the representatives of Finland, Germany, Austria, Lesotho, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Peru, the United States of America and Rwanda, in addition to the observers for Malaysia, Singapore and Angola.

50. The Secretary-General of the Research Council of Oman and the representative of the UNCTAD secretariat responded to comments made and questions raised during the discussion.

Chapter V

Election of the Chair and other officers for the eighteenth session of the Commission

51. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 8th meeting, on 16 May.

52. The Commission elected by acclamation the following officers for its eighteenth session:

Chair:
Omobola Johnson (Nigeria)

Vice-Chairs:
Majed Almazyed (Saudi Arabia)
Peter Major (Hungary)
Victoria Romero (Mexico)
Andrew Reynolds (United States of America)

53. The Commission postponed the election of the Rapporteur to its eighteenth session.

Chapter VI
Provisional agenda and documentation for the eighteenth session of the Commission

54. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 8th meeting, on 16 May. It had before it an informal paper containing the draft provisional agenda and documentation for its eighteenth session.

55. The representative of the UNCTAD secretariat responded to a question raised by the observer for the European Union.

56. The Commission approved the provisional agenda and documentation for its eighteenth session, and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for adoption (see chap. I, sect. B).

Chapter VII
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its seventeenth session

57. At its 9th meeting, on 16 May, the Commission had before it the draft report on its seventeenth session (E/CN.16/2014/L.1).

58. The Rapporteur, Majed Almazyed (Saudi Arabia), introduced the draft report.

59. The Commission adopted the draft report on its seventeenth session and entrusted the Rapporteur with its completion.

Chapter VIII
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

60. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development held its seventeenth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 12 to 16 May 2014. The Commission held nine meetings (1st to 9th).

61. The session was opened by the Chair, Andrew Reynolds (United States of America), who also made a statement.

62. At the 1st meeting, on 12 May, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD made an opening statement.

63. At the same meeting, the following speakers addressed the Commission: Hamadoun Touré, Secretary-General of ITU; Rolf-Dieter Heuer, Director General of the European Organization for Nuclear Research; Getachew Engida, Deputy Director General of UNESCO; and Amina Mohammed, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on post-2015 development planning (delivered via video message).

B. Attendance

64. The session was attended by representatives of 42 States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system, representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and representatives of civil society and business entities also attended. The list of participants for the session is contained in E/CN.16/2014/INF/1.

C. Election of officers

65. The Commission, at the 7th meeting of its sixteenth session, on 7 June 2013, had elected by acclamation the following members of the Bureau of its seventeenth session:

Chair:
Andrew Reynolds (United States)

Vice-Chairs:
Majed Almazyed (Saudi Arabia)
Jean-Pierre Biyiti bi Essam (Cameroon)
Peter Major (Hungary)
Alexander Mora (Costa Rica)

66. At the 4th meeting of its seventeenth session, on 13 May 2014, the Commission designated Majed Almazyed (Saudi Arabia) to serve as Rapporteur of the session.

D. Agenda and organization of work

67. At its 1st meeting, on 12 May 2014, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.16/2014/1, as orally corrected, and approved its organization of work, as contained in an informal paper circulated in English only. The agenda was as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels.
3. Science and technology for development:

   Priority themes:

   (a) Science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda:

      (i) Taking stock: a decade of contributions of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to the Millennium Development Goals;

      (ii) Looking forward: science, technology and innovation prospects for the post-2015 development agenda;

   (b) Information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development.
4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews.
5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the eighteenth session of the Commission.
6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the eighteenth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its seventeenth session.

68. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the proposed organization of work, as contained in an informal paper circulated in English only.

E. Documentation

69. The list of documents before the Commission at its seventeenth session is contained in the annex to the present report.

Annex

List of documents before the Commission at its seventeenth session

Document symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
E/CN.16/2014/1	1	Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work
A/69/65-E/2014/12	2	Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels
E/CN.16/2014/2 and Corr.1	3 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda
E/CN.16/2014/3	3 (b)	Report of the Secretary-General on information and communications technologies for inclusive social and economic development
E/CN.16/2014/L.1	7	Draft report of the Commission on its seventeenth session
E/CN.16/2014/CRP.1	2	Summary report prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat on the intersessional panel meeting held in Washington, D.C., from 2 to 4 December 2013
E/CN.16/2014/CRP.2		Report of the secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum on the ongoing implementation of the recommendations of the working group on improvements to the Forum
E/CN.16/2014/CRP.3		Report of the Chair of the working group to examine the mandate of the World Summit on the Information Society regarding enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda (Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation)
E/CN.16/2014/INF/1		List of participants

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